

Message Text

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45

ORIGIN COA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 DRC-01 INT-08 NSF-04 PM-07 EB-11

COME-00 /067 R

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ARA/MEX MR. KING (SUB)

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R 182206Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

CSAF/XOXXGIF

BASE OPS HOWARD AF

UNCLAS STATE 246561

EO 11652 NA

TAGS OCLR EFIS TBIO XK

SUB: AERIAL PORPOISE RESEARCH

REF: STATE 180231

1. NMFS HAS PROVIDED FURTHER DETAILS RE PORPOISE RESEARCH MENTIONED REFTTEL. PROGRAM INVOLVES COMBINED HIP/AIR-CRAFT OPERATIONS. PLANE WILL MAKE LOW ALTITUDE FLIGHTS (500 TO 1500 FT) OUT APPROXIMATELY 500 MILES SEAWARD. NMFS R/V DAVID STARR JORDAN, AND OBSERVERS ABOARD SELECTED VESSELS US TUNA FLEET, WILL TAKE SHIPBOARD OBSERVATIONS. ALL WORK IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS. AIRCRAFT TO COVER FROM BAJA CALIFORNIA TO PANAMA. NMFS HAS OBTAINED USE OF DEPT INTERIOR'S (BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE) GRUMMAN AMPHIBIAN, NUMBER N780. AIRCREW WILL EMPLOY PHOTOGRAPHY FOR VISUAL RECORD PORPOISE POPULATION AND UNCLASSIFIED

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DENSITY. PROGRAM CALLS FOR 17 DAYS FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN

PERIOD 20 JANUARY TO 20 FEBRUARY, 1974. ACTUAL FLIGHT DATES DEPEND ON VISIBILITY CONDITIONS. PLANE TO UTILIZE AIRFIELDS IN LA PAZ, PUERTO VALLARTA, ACAPULCO, AND TAPACHULA, MEXICO; SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA AND HOWARD AFB, CANAL ZONE. WORK WAS ORIGINALLY PLANNED WITH LARGER AIRCRAFT, WITH ALL FLIGHTS OUT OF COSTA RICA. SWITCH TO SMALLER, SHORTER RANGE TYPE WILL REQUIRE SEVERAL FIELDS.

2. ACTION: ARRANGE AS NECESSARY TO SECURE GOM, GOCR

APPROVAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS. NMFS WOULD WELCOME ONE OBSERVER EACH COUNTRY. RUSH

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